

# ORDER #2025-15

**WHEREAS**, the Commissioners' Court of Panola County desires to purchase food for the Panola County Detention Center; and

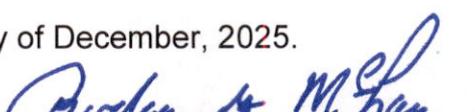
**WHEREAS**, Article 262.024(a)(8) V.T.C.A. grants discretionary exemptions from competitive bidding and competitive proposal requirements for an item of food; and

**WHEREAS**, Article 262.024(d) V.T.C.A. states that while food purchases are exempt from sealed competitive bidding requirements "Counties shall solicit at least three bids for purchases of food items by telephone or written quotation at intervals specified by the Commissioners' Court." This section further states that "Counties shall award food purchase contracts to the responsible bidder who submits the lowest and best bid or shall reject all bids and repeat the bidding process, as provided by this subsection. The purchasing officer taking telephone or written bids under this subsection shall maintain, on a form approved by the Commissioners' Court, a record of all bids solicited and the vendors contacted. This record shall be kept in the purchasing office for a period of at least one year or until audited by the County Auditor.";

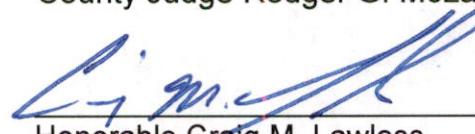
**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED**, by the Panola County Commissioners' Court as follows:

1. Purchases of food for the Panola County Detention Center are exempt from the competitive bidding requirements of the Purchasing Act for Fiscal Year 2026;
2. All food vendors who will supply food in Fiscal Year 2026 for the Panola County Detention Center are hereby exempted from competitive bidding requirements; and are ratified as approved vendors. The Commissioners' Court further approves the continuance of Fiscal Year 2025 vendors as selected by the Commissioners' Court and exempts them from competitive bidding requirements until a new exemption is claimed in the next fiscal year;
3. The Panola County Detention Center employee responsible for the purchase of food for the Panola County Detention Center shall solicit at least three bids by telephone or written quotation for all foods twice a year, same being October 1<sup>st</sup> and April 1<sup>st</sup> of each and every subsequent year;
4. Said bids or quotations shall be submitted to the Commissioners' Court for award of the food purchase to the responsible bidder who submits the lowest and best bid per food item;
5. The Sheriff is hereby authorized pursuant to Article 262.001 V.T.C.A. to purchase items for which vendors change prices more frequently than six months without prior Court's approval.
6. If after award, a vendor does not provide the volume or quality of food or the timeliness of delivery required, the authorized Detention Center employee(s) may purchase urgently needed replacement, special dietary or doctor recommended foods from the next lowest vendor with notation on purchaser orders of such action.

ADOPTED in Open Court this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December, 2025.

  
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County Judge Rodger G. McLane

  
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Honorable Billy Alexander  
Commissioner, Precinct One

  
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Honorable Craig M. Lawless  
Commissioner, Precinct Three